

U.S. Appln. No. 09/931,660  
Reply to Office Action dated September 23, 2005

PATENT  
450100-03393

**IN THE SPECIFICATION**

Please amend the abstract as follows:

~~A judgment as to whether~~ A system that judges which of a number of parties  
initiates an action to transfer digital data of a content through a network ~~has been initiated by a~~  
~~party on a transmission or reception side is performed. If the action has been initiated by the~~  
~~party on the transmission side, a judgment as to whether a sign appended as a prefix to the digital~~  
~~data of the content is positive or negative is performed. If the sign is positive, the a party on the~~  
~~transmission side settles accounting for the digital data of the content. If the sign is negative, the~~  
~~reception side is requested to settle accounting for the digital data of the content. If the action has~~  
~~been initiated by the party on the reception side, a judgment as to whether the sign~~ magnitude  
~~appended as a prefix to the digital data of the content is positive or negative. If the sign~~  
magnitude is positive, the party on the reception side is requested to settle accounting for the  
digital data of the content. If the ~~sign~~ magnitude is negative, the party on the transmission side  
settles accounting for the digital data of the content. As a result, it is possible to arbitrarily  
determine whether a party on the transmission or reception side should bear the cost of a content.